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The National News Council

ONE LINCOLN PLAZA NEW YORK, N.Y. 10023 (212) 595-9411

STANLEY H. FULD, Chairman
WILLIAM B. ARTHUR, Executive Director
NED SCHNURMAN, Associate Director

Int act Sen

November 20, 1975

The Honorable William E. Colby Director Central Intelligence Agency McLean, Virginia 22101

Dear Mr. Colby:

The National News Council unanimously adopted the following statement at a meeting of the Council on November 11 in Racine, Wisconsin:

The National News Council is alarmed at the threat to a free press inherent in reports that journalists, without the knowledge of their employers, have been retained by the Central Intelligence Agency in the fulfillment of various functions for the agency.

The Council requests that the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency make known the present extent of such employment and whether such a practice is presently being implemented.

If such practice presently exists, the Council further urges the Director of the CIA to issue an order immediately bringing an end to such employment of journalists and to make the order public. Without such an order, a cloud hangs over the entire profession of journalism.

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The Honorable William E. Colby November 20, 1975

As Chairman of the National News Council, an independent organization established in 1973 to consider complaints from the public concerning the accuracy and fairness of national news reporting and to examine possible infringements of freedom of the press, I await your response to this statement and request by the Council.

Sincerely,

Stanley H. Fuld

Chairman

SHF:nk

Copies to:

Larry Jinks
President
Associated Press Managing
Editors Association

Warren Phillips President American Society of Newspaper Editors

Quinton C. Wilson
Executive Secretary
Association for Education
in Journalism

Robert McCord
President
Society of Professional
Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi

Richard Salant President CBS News

William Sheehan President ABC News

Richard C. Wald President

John Salisbury President Radio-Television News Directors Association

Vincent T. Wasilewski President National Association of Broadcasters

John G. McCullough President National Conference of Editorial Writers

Wes Gallagher President-General Manager The Associated Press

Louis D. Boccardi Asst. Gen. Manager The Associated Press

Roderick W. Beaton President-General Manager United Press International

H.L. Stevenson Editor-in-Chief

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The Honorable William E. Colby November 20, 1975

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Irv Kummerfeldt Secretary-Treasurer International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors

Raymond E. Dix President Inter American Press Association

Harold W. Andersen Chairman/President American Newspaper Publishers Association

Ruth Whitney
President
American Society of Magazine
Editors

Charles C. Randolph Chairman Magazine Publishers Association

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